



## February 10-11, 2021 -- UAE is not only known for a Mars probe but massive cyber warfare

publication date: Feb 9, 2021

[Next](#)

**February 10-11, 2021 -- UAE is not only known for a Mars probe but massive cyber warfare**

### Abu Dhabi

The **United Arab Emirates** is not only known for sending its **Hope Probe** spacecraft to explore **Mars** but is also a major actor in launching cyber-attacks against its adversaries, friends, and neutral nations. With the assistance of cyber-mercenaries drawn from the **U.S. Intelligence Community**, including the **National Security Agency (NSA)** and disgraced General **Michael Flynn's** former command, the **Defense Intelligence Agency**, UAE's state-owned cyber-warfare firm, **Digital14**, has assumed control over the cyber-warfare company, **DarkMatter**. It was **DarkMatter**, located in the same **Abu Dhabi** building that housed the UAE's **National Electronic Security Authority (NESA)**, an intelligence-sharing partner of the NSA, that was extremely successful in hiring former cyber-warfare and cyber-espionage personnel from the United States government, an effort that earned the entity a counter-intelligence investigation by the FBI.

Digital14 has also enlisted the support of former cyber-warfare specialists from **Israel, France, and Hungary**.



**DarkMatter's Project Raven** relied on a special software program called **KARMA** that targeted **iPhones** for successful surveillance. With the assistance of its American and other foreign support personnel, UAE Crown Prince **Mohammed bin Zayed (MbZ)** was able to conduct surveillance of the communications of **Qatar's Emir, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, his wife, Sheikha Moza bint Nasser**, and other members of the Qatari royal family, as well as government officials, journalists, and businessmen in **Iran, Turkey, Pakistan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Iraq, the West Bank and Gaza, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Oman, Yemen, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Sudan, Mauritania, Somalia, Somaliland, Chad, and the Government of National Unity in Tripoli, Libya**. UAE surveillance targets were assigned code names, including **EGRET** for imprisoned UAE human rights activist **Ahmed Mansoor**, **PURPLE EGRET** for his wife, **Nadia Mansoor**, and **GYRO** for British journalist **Rori Donaghy**, a former colleague of the late U.S.-based Saudi journalist **Jamal**

**Khashoggi**. Intelligence collected by the UAE that may be of interest to Israeli intelligence, particularly on the "three Hs," **Hezbollah, Hamas**, and the Yemeni **Houthis** is sent directly to Tel Aviv.

Using a similar mobile phone tracking system to **KARMA** called **PEGASUS**, supplied by the Israeli firm, **NSO Group**, to Saudi intelligence, Saudi agents successfully tracked **Khashoggi** in **Istanbul** in October 2018 and eventually murdered him at the Saudi Consulate General in a particularly grisly manner. The country that arranged the deal for the Saudis to use **NSO Group** cyber-espionage software was the UAE. UAE cyber-spies, with the assistance of their Israeli partners, also conducted communications surveillance of and disinformation campaigns against Syrian President **Bashar al Assad**, Turkish President



**Recep Tayyip Erdogan**, U.S. Representative **Ilhan Omar**, U.S. First Lady **Michelle Obama**, Iranian President **Hassan Rouhani**, and Iranian General **Qassem Soleiman**, the latter killed by a U.S. drone strike on January 3, 2020 at **Baghdad International Airport**. The UAE cyber-warriors also conducted a social media campaign against two 2019 candidates for president of **Mauritania**, **Biram Dah Abeid** and **Sidi**



**Mohamed Ould Boubacar**. [right] The UAE's Operation **BRUTAL CHALLENGE** targeted officials of the **International Federation of Association Football (FIFA)** organization and Qatar's hosting of the 2022 **World Cup**.

**Jared Kushner's** dubious shuttle diplomacy between Abu Dhabi and Jerusalem, which resulted in the "**Abraham Accords**" establishing diplomatic relations between the UAE and Israel, has also cemented UAE-Israeli intelligence ties and cooperation in cyber-warfare and espionage. Considering Kushner's well-known duplicity and perfidy, the question must be asked: Did Kushner arrange for the same type of joint UAE-Israeli cyber-warfare campaign against the **Joe Biden-Kamala Harris** ticket as was employed in 2019 in Mauritania? **Elliott Broidy**, the former finance co-chair of the **Republican National Committee**, who was given a full pardon by Donald Trump after a federal conviction for failure to register as a foreign agent, has been active in fronting for UAE and Saudi propaganda efforts. Broidy's defense intelligence firm, **Circinus LLC**, secured a five-year intelligence contract with the UAE, worth some \$600 million. Broidy, in threatened legal action against WMR's editor, made the libelous and false accusation that the editor had been serving as an agent for the government of Qatar.

-30-

**Generally, readers are solely responsible for the content of the comments they post on this web site. Comments are subject to the site's terms and conditions of use and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or approval of Wayne Madsen Report.com. Readers whose comments violate the terms of use may have their comments removed without notification. Please do not post hate messages as this is a violation of British laws against racist and xenophobic messages. WMR's web service is based in Wales, UK and is subject to UK law.**

| [Next](#)

[Back to top](#)